#### CaseM:02-cv-01486-PJH Document1778 Filed11/26/07 Page1 of 28

1 2 3 4 5 6 7	GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER LLP JOEL S. SANDERS, SBN 107234, JSanders@gibsondunn.com G. CHARLES NIERLICH, SBN 196611, GNierlich@gibsondunn.com JOSHUA D. HESS, SBN 244115, Jhess@gibsondunn.com REBECCA JUSTICE LAZARUS, SBN 227330, RJustice@gibsondunn.com One Montgomery Street, Suite 3100 San Francisco, California 94104 Telephone: (415) 393-8200 Facsimile: (415) 986-5309			
8	Attorneys for Defendants MICRON TECHNOLOGY, INC. AND MICRON SEMICONDUCTOR PRODUCTS, INC.			
10	[Additional counsel on signature page.]			
11	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT			
12	FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA			
13	·			
14 15 16 17	In Re DYNAMIC RANDOM ACCESS MEMORY (DRAM) ANTITRUST LITIGATION	Master File No.: M MDL NO. 1486	І-02-1486-РЈН	
18	This Document Relates to:	NOTICE OF MO	TION AND MOTION TO	
19	STATE OF NEW YORK,	DISMISS AMENDED COMPLAINT; MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT		
20	Plaintiff,			
21	v.			
22	MICRON TECHNOLOGY, INC., et al.,	ORAL ARGUME	ENT REQUESTED	
23	Defendants.	Hearing Date:	January 16, 2008	
24		Hearing Time: Location:	9:00 a.m. Courtroom 3, 17th Floor	
25	(Case No. C 06-6436 PJH)	Judge:	Hon. Phyllis J. Hamilton	
26				
27   27				
-				
28				

#### 

# 

#### 

#### 

# 

# 

## 

#### 

#### 

#### 

#### 

#### 

## 

# 

#### 

#### 

#### 

# 

# 

#### 

#### 

#### 

#### 

# Gibson, Dunn &

#### **NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION**

#### TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Defendants Micron Technology, Inc., Micron Semiconductor Products, Inc., Infineon Technologies AG, Infineon Technologies North America Corporation, Hynix Semiconductor Inc., Hynix Semiconductor America Inc., Mosel Vitelic Corporation, Mosel Vitelic Inc., Nanya Technology Corporation, Nanya Technology Corporation USA, Elpida Memory, Inc., Elpida Memory (USA) Inc., and NEC Electronics America, Inc. ("Defendants") will and hereby do move this Court for an Order dismissing certain portions of the Amended Complaint in the above entitled action pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(6) for failure to state a claim on which relief may be granted. Specifically, Defendants seek dismissal of Plaintiff's Sherman Act and Donnelly Act claims to the extent they purport to claim recovery for entities other than the State of New York. Defendants also seek dismissal of Plaintiff's claim for damages on behalf of natural persons pursuant to New York Executive Law 63(12).

This motion shall be heard on January 16, 2008, at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be called, in the courtroom of the Honorable Phyllis J. Hamilton, United States District Judge, United States District Court, 450 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco, California, 94102.

This motion is based upon this Notice of Motion; the accompanying Memorandum of Points and Authorities; the complete files in these actions; argument of counsel; and such other and further matters as this Court may consider.

#### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

2					<u>Page</u>
3	I.	INTF	RODUC	CTION	1
4	II.	PRO	CEDU	RAL BACKGROUND	3
5		A.	The	Complaint and Defendants' Motion to Dismiss	3
6		В.	The	Court's August 31, 2007 Order	5
7		C.	The	Amended Complaint	7
8	III.	STA	STANDARD OF REVIEW		9
9	IV.	ARG	ARGUMENT9		
10		A.	Plair Be D	ntiff's Claim Under the Sherman Act (First Claim) Should Dismissed	9
11			1.	Plaintiff's Amendment Of Its Claim Reaches Outside	
12				The Bounds Allowed By This Court's Order By Alleging A New Theory	9
13 14			2.	Plaintiff Has Not Adequately Alleged A Valid "Assignment" of The OEMs' Claims To The State	10
15		•	3.	The Amended Complaint Fails to Provide The	
16				Specificity Required As To The Government Entities Plaintiff Seeks to Represent	11
17		B.	Plain	tiffs' Claims For Damages Under the Donnelly Act	
18			Beca	ond and Third Claims) Should Be Dismissed, In Part, use They Impermissibly Assert Claims of Governmental	
19				ies	13
20			1.	Plaintiff's Second Claim Should Be Dismissed With The Exception Of Its Claim For Civil Penalties	13
21			2.	Plaintiff's Third Claim Should Be Dismissed Because It	
22		~	<b>~</b> 1.	Provides No Independent Basis For A Claim	14
23		C.	Unde	tiff's Claim for Damages On Behalf Of Natural Persons r Executive Law 63(12) (Fourth Claim) Should Be	
24				issed	15
25			1.	New York Law Bars Plaintiff's Claim Under Executive Law 63(12) Because It Is Too Remote From The Alleged Violation	16
26			2.	Plaintiff's Claim Is Also Expressly Barred By The	
27				Sherman Act and the Donnelly Act	17
28	V.	CON	CLUSI	ON	20
				i	

1	TABLE OF AUTHORITIES		
2			
3	Page(s)		
4	CASES		
. 5	Bell Atl. Corp. v. Twombly, 127 S. Ct. 1955 (2007)		
6	Block v. North Dakota ex rel. Board of Univ. and School Lands,		
7	461 US. 273 (1983)		
8	Blue Cross and Blue Shield v. Philip Morris USA,		
9	3 N.Y.3d 200 (N.Y. Ct. App. 2004)		
10 Brown v. General Services Administration, 425 U.S. 820 (1976)			
11	Ho v. Visa U.S.A.,		
12	16 A.D.3d 256 (N.Y. App. Div. 2005)		
13	Illinois Brick Co. v. Illinois,		
14	431 U.S. 720 (1977)		
15	Lefkowitz v. Colorado State Christian College of the Church of the Inner Power, Inc., 76 Misc. 2d 50 (N.Y. Sup. Ct. 1973)		
16	Morton v. Mancari,		
17	417 U.S. 535 (1974)		
18	New York v. Daicel Chemical Industries, Ltd., 2007 N.Y. Slip. Op. 5827 (N.Y. App. Div. 2007)		
19	New York v. Feldman,		
20	210 F. Supp. 2d 294 (S.D.N.Y. 2002)		
21	People v. American Motor Club, Inc.,		
22	582 N.Y.S.2d 688 (1st Dept. 1992)		
23	People v. Concert Connection, Ltd.,		
24	629 N.Y.S.2d 254 (2nd Dept. 1995)		
25	State of New York v. Cortelle Corp., 38 N.Y.2d 83 (N.Y. Ct. App. 1975)		
26	Stonite Products Co. v. Melvin Lloyd Co.,		
27	315 U.S. 561 (1942)		
28	United States v. Beggerly, 524 U.S. 38 (1998)		
Gibson Dice- 1	524 U.S. 38 (1998)		
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP	Defendants' Motion to Dismiss Amended Complaint; Case No. C 06-6436 PJH; MDL No. 1486		

#### CaseM:02-cv-01486-PJH Document1778 Filed11/26/07 Page5 of 28

1	TABLE OF AUTHORITIES [Continued]	
2	Page(s	3)
<i>3</i> 4	STATUTES	
5	15 U.S.C. § 15	1
6	Fed. R. Civ. Pro. 15(a)	0
7	Gen. Bus. L. § 340(1)	4
8	Gen. Bus. L. § 340(5)	4
9	Gen. Bus. L. § 340(6)	4
10	Gen. Bus. L. § 349	
11	New York Executive Law 63(12)	n
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19 20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		
	iii	

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

# 

## 

# 

# 

#### 

#### 

#### 

## 

## 

#### 

## 

# 

#### 

#### 

#### 

#### 

#### 

#### 

#### **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

#### I. INTRODUCTION

In its second attempt to state a legally sufficient complaint against Defendants, Plaintiff has filed an Amended Complaint. This Amended Complaint is the result of this Court's August 31, 2007 Order ("Order") dismissing, in part, Plaintiff's federal and state antitrust claims. In that Order, this Court gave Plaintiff State of New York the opportunity to amend some of its claims to remedy certain defects. Specifically, the Court noted that Plaintiff could not prosecute claims of unnamed parties who otherwise would be members of classes – state and local governmental entities and natural persons – under the Sherman Act and New York's antitrust statute, the Donnelly Act, unless Plaintiff provided specific information concerning the entities it seeks to represent. Not only does the Amended Complaint fail to remedy the defects identified in the Court's Order with respect to these representative claims, Plaintiff attempts to skirt the Court's explicit instructions concerning the scope of its amendments, introducing new claims and theories and complying with only a portion of the requirements set forth by the Court. At bottom, the Amended Complaint does not address the issues raised by this Court in its Order and should be dismissed in part.

Indeed, one need look no further than the text of this Court's Order to see significant and incurable flaws with Plaintiff's Amended Complaint. Plaintiff has failed to meet almost every one of the Court's express requirements to correct the deficiencies in the original complaint. And even putting these substantial deficiencies aside, the Amended Complaint fails to provide a colorable basis for its claims under the Sherman Act and New York Executive Law 63(12).

• The Court's Order required Plaintiff to provide specific information about each of the government entities it seeks to represent for purposes of its Sherman Act and Donnelly Act claims, but the Amended Complaint does not provide that information. This Court directed Plaintiff to provide four pieces of information about each of the governmental entities it seeks to represent for purposes of its Sherman Act and New York's Donnelly Act claims, including allegations that: (1) "the government entities at issue have requested that the present action be instituted on their behalf" (Order at 9); (2) "identify the entities at issue" (id.); (3) identify "the nature of the purchases made by specific government entities" (id. at 10) and (4) state each entities' "indirect or direct purchaser

status." *Id.* at 12. The Amended Complaint does not meet any of these requirements. The Amended Complaint lists some "Requesting non-State public entities" who have purportedly requested that the State bring this action on their behalf, but does not provide any information about the nature of the purchases made by each of these entities or their indirect or direct purchaser status as directed by the Court's Order.

• The Court's Order permitted amendment only as specified in the Order or by leave of Court, but the Amended Complaint adds claims and modifies allegations in contravention of that Order. The Court's Order explicitly stated that amendment of Plaintiff's claims was permitted only as specified in the Order or by leave of Court. Order at 21. Plaintiff has not sought leave of Court to further amend its complaint and it has not complied with the limits placed on amendment by the Court's Order. First, the Court did not provide Plaintiff leave to add additional claims, but Plaintiff has now added a new claim under the Donnelly Act sections 340(1) and (6). Amend. Compl. at ¶¶ 94-100. Although the original complaint contained a Donnelly Act claim, it did not base its claims on subsection 6 of the Donnelly Act. Plaintiff's addition of this new claim is outside the bounds of the Court's Order.

Second, the Order authorized amendment of Plaintiff's Sherman Act claim only "in order to allow plaintiff to cure the deficiencies noted herein with respect to the requisite showing that must be made pursuant to the Donnelly Act authorization of representative claims on behalf of state government entities" Order at 10. Not only does Plaintiff's amended Sherman Act claim fail to cure these deficiencies as noted above, but it also attempts to justify its representative action by excising any mention of injury to the governmental entities who made purchases pursuant to the Centralized Contract and instead alleges the new factual theory that the State itself is the "owner" of these governmental entities' claims. Amend. Compl. at ¶ 86. This amendment also does not address the deficiencies noted by the Court with respect to Plaintiff's Donnelly Act claim. Instead, it is a transparent attempt to circumvent the Court's concerns regarding the Plaintiff's ability to assert claims on behalf of government entities other than the State. Such amendments are not only outside the bounds within which this Court permitted Plaintiff leave to amend, but are futile. The Court has already concluded that the Centralized Contract assignment clause cannot be the basis for Plaintiff's

claims. Order at 8. Moreover, this semantic change does not change the fact that, as in the original Complaint, Plaintiff impermissibly seeks to recover on behalf of state entities and corporations, both of which are "excluded from the definition of a natural person," Order at 6, and thus excluded from the group on behalf of which the Clayton Act authorizes the Attorney General to bring claims.

- Plaintiff Has Not Adequately Alleged A Valid "Assignment" of The OEMs' Claims

  To The State. Even assuming that the Court were to allow Plaintiff to amend its Sherman Act claim,

  Plaintiff has failed to allege that a valid assignment of claims has taken place. Indeed, it is difficult to
  see on what basis Plaintiff can recover damages for purchases made pursuant to contracts to which it
  is not a party. Moreover, Plaintiff's allegations as to the claims implicated by the alleged assignment
  are woefully inadequate. The Amended Complaint contains no allegations concerning which
  governmental entities used the Centralized Contract, for which purchases, or the amount of such
  purchases. Because Plaintiff's new theory is based on purchases made by these government entities,
  the lack of such allegations is fatal to this claim.
- Plaintiff has not alleged a damage claim under New York Executive Law 63(12).

  Plaintiff's claim for damages on behalf of natural persons who indirectly purchased DRAM under New York Executive Law 63(12) is flawed because, under well-established New York precedent, Plaintiff's claims on behalf of indirect purchasers under Executive Law 63(12) are too remote to survive the pleading stage. Moreover, Executive Law 63(12) does not provide an independent cause of action. In order to bring a claim under Executive Law 63(12), Plaintiff must establish that it may assert a claim under another statute. But the statutes Plaintiff seeks to use as a basis for recovery—the Sherman Act and the Donnelly Act—both prohibit the type of indirect purchaser damage claims Plaintiff seeks to assert under New York Executive Law 63(12).

#### II. PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

#### A. The Complaint and Defendants' Motion to Dismiss

Plaintiff State of New York filed its original complaint in this action on July 13, 2006, alleging that, beginning in 1999, Defendants entered into a worldwide conspiracy designed to eliminate competition in the United States for dynamic random access memory (DRAM). See Complaint at ¶ 2. Plaintiff contended that this conspiracy caused damage to purchasers of DRAM-

12.

containing products and DRAM memory chips. *Id.* at ¶ 5. Plaintiff's Complaint asserted four causes of action against Defendants: (1) a federal antitrust claim for violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act; (2) a state antitrust claim for violation of a provision of New York's Donnelly Act, Gen. Bus. L. § 340(1) and (5); (3) a claim pursuant to New York Executive Law 63(12); and (4) a claim pursuant to California's state antitrust statute, the Cartwright Act.

With respect to its Sherman Act claim, Plaintiff sought to bring an action for treble damages and injunctive relief on behalf of itself, and as parens patriae and as authorized by law on behalf of state and local government branches, departments, agencies, subdivisions and other entities that purchased DRAM or DRAM-containing products directly or indirectly ("Government Entities"). *See, e.g., Id.* at ¶¶ 81-86. With respect to its Donnelly Act, Executive Law 63(12) and Cartwright Act claims, Plaintiff sought to bring an action on behalf of itself, and, as parens patriae and as authorized by law on behalf of (a) the above-defined Government Entities and (b) natural persons in New York who purchased DRAM or DRAM-containing products from defendants indirectly. *See, e.g., id.* at ¶¶ 87-92, 93-95, 96-101. Plaintiff's Donnelly Act claim sought treble damages, attorneys' fees, civil penalties and injunctive relief. *Id.* at ¶ 92. Plaintiff's claim pursuant to 63(12) sought treble damages and injunctive relief. *Id.* at ¶ 95. Plaintiff's claim under the Cartwright Act sought treble damages, attorneys' fees and injunctive relief. *Id.* at ¶ 101.

Plaintiff alleged that its authority to bring an action on behalf of Government Entities other than the State of New York stemmed from (1) certain assignment clauses contained in various contracts entered into by the Government Entities; (2) the Donnelly Act; and (3) various provisions of Executive Law 63. With respect to the assignment clauses, Plaintiff alleged that various Government Entities made their purchases from OEMs pursuant to a contract entered into by New York State's procurement agency, the Office of General Services, with the OEMs. Plaintiff further alleged that the purchases by the Government Entities of DRAM-containing products from the OEMs pursuant to this "Centralized Contract" were direct purchases of price-fixed DRAM because "[b]y virtue of the assignment clause of the Centralized Contract, the State of New York, on behalf of all State Entities that purchased DRAM or DRAM-containing products under the Centralized Contract, stands in the

shoes of the OEMs and other direct purchasers of price-fixed DRAM for purposes of alleging federal and state antitrust claims." Id. at ¶¶ 73, 80.

Defendants filed a motion to dismiss certain portions of Plaintiff's claims. Specifically, Defendants sought an order dismissing Plaintiff's Sherman Act claim to the extent it sought damages based on indirect purchases or purchases of entities other than the State of New York. Defendants also sought dismissal of Plaintiff's Donnelly Act claim to the extent it sought recovery for purchases of entities other than the State of New York. Additionally, Defendants sought dismissal of Plaintiff's claim pursuant to New York Executive Law 63(12) on the grounds that: (1) Plaintiff's claim was not timely made; (2) that the section does not authorize the State to assert in the State's name damage claims belonging to unnamed government entities; and (3) that the section did not authorize the claim for treble damages. Finally, Defendants sought dismissal of Plaintiff's claim under the Cartwright Act on the grounds that the Act does not authorize New York to assert claims on behalf of unnamed state entities and natural persons and that the Act does not authorize actions by non-California state agencies and political subdivisions.

#### B. The Court's August 31, 2007 Order

On August 31, 2007, this Court issued an order granting in part and denying in part

Defendants' motion. With respect to Plaintiff's Sherman Act claim, the Court dismissed "all claims seeking recovery on behalf of indirect purchasers" based on the holding in *Illinois Brick Co. v. Illinois*, 431 U.S. 720 (1977) prohibiting such claims. Order at 5, 20. The Court also dismissed "all representative claims on behalf of unnamed government entities," but granted leave to amend those claims. *Id.* The Court held that the federal Clayton Act, 15 U.S.C. § 15, does not permit representative claims on behalf of other government entities, and noted that, although the Clayton Act allows a state attorney general to bring a parens patriae claim on behalf of natural persons, that provision "does not include corporations, partnerships, or proprietorships" and "[b]y extension, government entities are similarly excluded from the definition of natural person." *Id.* at 6. The Court also rejected Plaintiff's attempt to prove it had standing to bring such representative claims by virtue of the assignment clauses contained in various contracts entered into by the Government Entities in question. In so holding, the Court stated that "plaintiff's representative claim brought on behalf of

\_ \_

government entities, if it is to go forward, cannot be rooted in the Centralized Contract assignment clause." *Id.* at 8.

The Court then examined Plaintiff's attempt to establish standing to bring a representative action under New York's Donnelly Act and concluded that "plaintiff's failure to allege either that the governmental entities in question requested that plaintiff bring suit on their behalf, or to name or identify the government entities in question, means that plaintiff's representative claim on behalf of those government entities must be dismissed insofar as the Donnelly Act is concerned." *Id.* at 9. Based on these findings, in granting Plaintiff leave to amend its claims, the Court stated that

Leave to amend is granted, however, in order to allow plaintiff to cure the deficiencies noted herein with respect to the requisite showing that must be made pursuant to the Donnelly Act authorization of representative claims on behalf of state government entities. The court also notes that, given the general ambiguity in plaintiff's complaint as to the specific entities on whose behalf plaintiff brings suit, and the direct or indirect nature of those entities' DRAM purchases, plaintiff must allege in any future amendment, the nature of the purchases made by specific government entities. This will enable the court to determine with specificity the purchases and entities upon which plaintiff's representative claims are stated.

Order at 10.

With respect to Plaintiff's Donnelly Act claim, the Court dismissed Plaintiff's claim for monetary damages on behalf of natural persons with prejudice. *Id.* at 21. The Court also dismissed Plaintiff's claim on behalf of governmental entities with leave to amend to allow plaintiff's to provide the requisite specificity concerning these governmental entities, including "indirect or direct purchaser status." *Id.* at 12, 21.

The Court granted Defendants' motion to dismiss Plaintiff's Executive Law 63(12) claim on behalf of government entities and Plaintiff's request for treble damages with prejudice. *Id.* at 21. The Court denied Defendants' motion to dismiss all of Plaintiff's Executive Law 63(12) claims on timeliness and procedural grounds. *Id.* The Court also dismissed Plaintiff's Cartwright Act claim with prejudice. *Id.* 

The Order stated "Leave to amend is permitted only as specified herein. Amendment as to additional matters is not permitted without leave of court." *Id.* The Order permitted Plaintiff leave to amend Plaintiff's representative claims on behalf of unnamed government entities for purposes of its Sherman Act and Donnelly Act claims. *Id.* at 20-21. Specifically, the Order directed Plaintiffs to

include allegations that: (1) "the government entities at issue have requested that the present action be instituted on their behalf" (id. at 9); (2) "identify the entities at issue" (id.); (3) "the nature of the purchases made by specific government entities" (id. at 10) and (4) each entities' "indirect or direct purchaser status." Id. at 12. The Order did not permit leave to amend as to any other matters.

#### C. The Amended Complaint

Plaintiff filed an amended complaint on October 1, 2007, which not only modified the claims made in the original complaint, in violation of this Court's Order, but also added additional claims and allegations. The Amended Complaint largely repeats the substantive allegations Plaintiffs had alleged in the original complaint. In it, Plaintiff asserts four causes of action: (1) a federal antitrust claim for violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act (First Claim); (2) a state antitrust claim for violation of New York's Donnelly Act, § 340(1) and (5) (Second Claim); (3) a state antitrust claim for violation of a different section of New York's Donnelly Act, § 340(1) and (6) (Third Claim); and (4) a claim pursuant to New York Executive Law 63(12) (Fourth Claim). The Amended Complaint indicates that Plaintiff brings claims

on behalf of (a) the State itself, including all of its branches, departments, agencies or other parts thereof (the "State" or "New York") (all Claims); (b) the non-State entities listed on the attached Schedule A ("Requesting non-State Public Entities") (Third Claim and the First and Second Claims in the alternative); and (c) natural persons in New York who purchased DRAM or DRAM-containing products indirectly from Defendants or their co-conspirators (Fourth Claim).

Amend. Compl. at ¶ 10.

Plaintiff seeks treble damages under its Sherman Act and Donnelly Act claims. *Id.* at ¶¶ 86, 92, 99. In addition, Plaintiff seeks attorneys' fees, injunctive relief and civil penalties in its sovereign

Although the Amended Complaint states that Plaintiff's Fourth Claim is brought on behalf of "natural persons in New York who purchased DRAM or DRAM-containing products indirectly," (Amend. Compl. at ¶ 10), the Fourth Claim seeks recovery "on behalf of all natural persons in New York who purchased DRAM-containing products or otherwise purchased DRAM indirectly." Amend. Compl. at ¶ 103. As such, it is not entirely clear whether Plaintiff seeks to bring its Fourth Claim on behalf of natural persons who were direct purchasers of DRAM. For the purposes of this motion, Defendants assume that Plaintiff seeks recovery only on behalf of natural persons who indirectly purchased DRAM (as pled in paragraph 103 of the Amended Complaint). Indeed, any claims of natural persons based on direct purchases of DRAM were released as part of the Direct Purchaser Class settlements.

capacity pursuant to its Donnelly Act claims. *Id.* at ¶¶ 92, 99. With respect to its claim under New York Executive Law 63(12), Plaintiff seeks monetary damages and injunctive relief. *Id.* at 103.

The changes to the Amended Complaint consist largely of two alterations to the allegations relating to the assignment of direct claims to the State. *See, e.g., id.* at ¶¶ 72-80. First, the Amended Complaint attaches a list of entities referred to as "Requesting non-State Public Entities" which are alleged to have requested that the State bring an action on their behalf. *See, e.g., id.* at ¶¶ 10, 86, 92, 99. Neither the Amended Complaint nor the list (Schedule A to the Amended Complaint) provides any information concerning these "Requesting non-State Public Entities" other than their names.

Second, like the original Complaint, the Amended Complaint alleges that Government Entities (both those who had explicitly requested that the State bring suit on their behalf and those who had not so requested) made their purchases from OEMs pursuant to a contract entered into by New York State's procurement agency, the Office of General Services. Plaintiff alleges that these purchases by the Government Entities of DRAM-containing products pursuant to this "Centralized Contract" gives rise to claims for direct purchases of price-fixed DRAM. Amend. Compl. at ¶ 73. However, the Amended Complaint adds to the allegations concerning the assignment clause, alleging that

As the language of the Assignment Clause provides, it is the "Contractor" (generally an OEM that has purchased DRAM and made it a component of a PC or other DRAM-containing product) that assigns to "the State" the Contractor's antitrust claims against the DRAM manufacturer "for overcharges associated with" the contract (the "Assigned Claims"). The State, accordingly, owns the Assigned Claims and is entitled to assert them. The scope of the claims that the OEM assigned is determined by the extent of the purchases of DRAM-containing products made under the Centralized Contract by both the State and the non-State Public Entities.

Id. at ¶ 80. The State therefore appears to assert claims under the contract based on purchases by non-State public entities.

With respect to its Sherman Act claim, the State alleges that "the State, as owner of the Assigned Claims is entitled to recover treble damages, based on the injury suffered directly by OEMs and other direct purchasers as a result of Defendants' illegal conduct." Amend. Compl. at ¶ 86. The State asserts that these Assigned Claims result from purchases made by entities referred to as "non-State Public Entities," which the Amended Complaint defines to refer to "all New York subdivisions,

counties, cities, towns, villages, local governmental units, school districts, and other public entities created under New York law – not simply to Requesting non-State Public Entities." *Id.* at ¶ 10. Plaintiff also alleges that "[t]o the extent that the Court is of the view that non-State Public Entities must request the Attorney General to act on their behalf nonetheless, then the Requesting non-State Public Entities, identified on Schedule A, have expressly so requested." *Id.* Plaintiff repeats the same allegation in its second Donnelly Act claim. *Id.* at ¶¶ 92, 99.

#### III. STANDARD OF REVIEW

In order to survive a dismissal motion, a plaintiff must allege facts that raise his right to relief "above the speculative level." *See, e.g., Bell Atlantic v. Twombly,* -- U.S. --, 127 S. Ct. 1955, 1964-65 (2007). It is the plaintiff's obligation to provide the "grounds" of his entitlement to relief," which requires more than labels and conclusions, and a formulaic recitation of the elements of a cause of action will not do." *Id.* A plaintiff must allege "enough facts to state a claim for relief that is plausible on its face," not just conceivable. *Id.* at 1974.

#### IV. ARGUMENT

- A. Plaintiff's Claim Under the Sherman Act (First Claim) Should Be Dismissed
  - 1. Plaintiff's Amendment Of Its Claim Reaches Outside The Bounds Allowed By This Court's Order By Alleging A New Theory

As an initial matter, Plaintiff's newly pled Sherman Act claim reaches outside the explicit bounds set by the Court's Order. In allowing amendment, this Court made it clear that "[1]eave to amend is permitted only as specified herein. Amendment as to additional matters is not permitted without leave of court." Order at 21. The Order authorized amendment of Plaintiff's Sherman Act claim "in order to allow plaintiff to cure the deficiencies noted herein with respect to the requisite showing that must be made pursuant to the Donnelly Act authorization of representative claims on behalf of state government entities." Order at 10.

Plaintiff's amendment goes beyond these bounds and seeks to eliminate the troublesome representative component of its claim entirely and replaces it with a new theory. It excises any mention of injury to the governmental entities who made purchases pursuant to the Centralized Contract. Instead, the Amended Complaint alleges that, pursuant to the Centralized Contract

assignment clause, OEMs who have contracted with various non-State governmental entities (both "requesting" and "non-requesting") have assigned their antitrust claims to the State. Amend. Compl. at ¶¶ 72-73, 77-79. Thus, Plaintiff has altered its claim to allege that the OEMs have assigned their claims directly to the State, even for purchases by non-State entities. As explained below, Plaintiff's new theory cannot state a claim because it suffers from the same deficiencies identified previously by the Court. But because Plaintiff has not sought leave to amend its claim to allege this new theory, the Court should dismiss the claim on this ground alone. *See* Fed. R. Civ. Pro. 15(a) (requiring leave of court to amend a pleading).

# 2. Plaintiff Has Not Adequately Alleged A Valid "Assignment" of The OEMs' Claims To The State

Even if the Court allows Plaintiff to amend its claim in this manner, the Court's Order dismissing the original complaint establishes that Plaintiff cannot proceed under this new theory. In its Order, the Court rejected Plaintiff's attempt to prove it had standing to bring representative claims by virtue of certain assignment clauses contained in various contracts entered into by the government entities in question, concluding that "plaintiff's representative claim brought on behalf of government entities, if it is to go forward, cannot be rooted in the Centralized Contract assignment clause." *Id.* at 8 (emphasis added).

Nevertheless, the Amended Complaint alleges that, pursuant to the Centralized Contract assignment clause, OEMs who have contracted with various non-State governmental entities (both "requesting" and "non-requesting") have assigned their antitrust claims to the State. Amend. Compl. at ¶¶ 72-73, 77-79. Plaintiff has altered its claim to allege that the OEMs have assigned their claims to the State. Plaintiff's allegations do not explain how the State, which is not a party to these contracts, can assert damages claims resulting from antitrust violations. And regardless of what words Plaintiff has excised from its allegations, the basic facts pled remain the same – Plaintiff seeks to recover for contracts entered into by various governmental entities who are indisputably not "the State" by virtue of the Centralized Contract assignment clause. It does not matter whether Plaintiff explicitly pleads that it represents various governmental entities or not. The Amended Complaint does not

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

demonstrate (any more than the original complaint) that any valid assignment has taken place between the appropriate parties and should be dismissed. *See* Order at 7.

Moreover, even if a valid assignment had taken place, Plaintiff's allegations as to the claims implicated by that assignment are woefully inadequate. For example, the Amended Complaint contains no allegations concerning which governmental entities used the Centralized Contract, for which purchases, or the amount of such purchases. *See, e.g.*, Amend. Compl. at ¶ 73 (alleging that "The State and many non-State Public Entities made their purchases from OEMs pursuant to contracts entered into by New York State's procurement agency, the Office of General Services ("OGS"), with the OEMs (the "Centralized Contract")).<sup>2</sup> Because Plaintiff's new theory is based on purchases made by these government entities, the lack of such allegations is fatal to this claim. In short, Plaintiff's new theory does not provide any information that would constitute "grounds of his entitlement to relief." *Twombly*, 127 S.Ct. at 1964-65. Accordingly, the claim should be dismissed.

# 3. The Amended Complaint Fails to Provide The Specificity Required As To The Government Entities Plaintiff Seeks to Represent

As a fall back position, Plaintiff also alleges that "[t]o the extent that the Court is of the view that non-State Public Entities must request the Attorney General to act on their behalf nonetheless, then the Requesting non-State Public Entities, identified on Schedule A, have expressly so requested." Amend. Compl. at ¶ 86. In so doing, Plaintiff appears to be alleging the same representative claim it advanced in its original complaint "just in case" the Court does not accept its new assignment theory. Plaintiff's backup plan also fails because Plaintiff has failed to comply with the requirements of the Court's Order.

In its Order, this Court recognized that the federal Clayton Act, 15 U.S.C. § 15, does not permit representative claims on behalf of other government entities, and noted that, although the

Even if New York could allege that the OEMs assigned their claims directly to the State, it is doubtful such claims even exist since the direct purchasers have settled their claims relating to the conspiracy alleged here. *See, e.g., United States v. Beggerly*, 524 U.S. 38, 46 (1998) (reiterating the importance of "rigid" adherence to the doctrine of res judicata).

#### CaseM:02-cv-01486-PJH Document1778 Filed11/26/07 Page17 of 28

Clayton Act allows a state attorney general to bring a parens patriae claim on behalf of natural persons, that provision "does not include corporations, partnerships, or proprietorships" and "[b]y extension, government entities are similarly excluded from the definition of natural person." Order at 6. Thus, Plaintiff's claim may only proceed if there is another basis for a representative action. In its Order, this Court concluded that the Donnelly Act might provide such a basis if Plaintiff provided the necessary specificity concerning the entities it seeks to represent. *Id.* at 8-9. Plaintiff has failed to do so.

As this Court recognized in its Order, in order to bring an action for damages on behalf of any political subdivision or public authority of the State, the Donnelly Act requires that such entities

political subdivision or public authority of the State, the Donnelly Act requires that such entities "request" the Attorney General to bring such an action. Order at 8 (citing N.Y. Gen. Bus. Law 342b). This Court's August 31, 2007 Order very clearly set forth what information Plaintiff was required to provide to amend its complaint to state a claim on behalf of governmental entities other than the State under the Sherman Act and the Donnelly Act. See, e.g., id. at 10. Plaintiff has failed to provide this information. Instead, Plaintiff has attached a list (Schedule A) of the so-called "Requesting non-State public entities.," which Plaintiff alleges have requested that the State bring an action on their behalf. See, e.g., Amend. Compl. at ¶ 86. Other than the list itself, the Amended Complaint provides no new information as to the nature of the purchases made by these "Requesting" government entities. Most notably, Plaintiff fails to indicate whether any of the "Requesting non-State Public Entities" are direct or indirect purchasers of DRAM. This deficiency is fatal to Plaintiff's claims given this Court's explicit direction that Plaintiff allege "the nature of the purchases made by specific government entities" (Order at 10) and "plaintiff's indirect or direct purchaser status must be provided." Order at 12. Indeed, the Amended Complaint fails to provide any specific information about the "Requesting non-State public entities" other than their names. Plaintiff's failure to provide the information leaves Defendants and this Court with more, not less, ambiguity than the previous iteration of the complaint. Accordingly, those claims should be dismissed.

26

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12.

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

27

28

# 1 2 3 4 5

# B. Plaintiffs' Claims For Damages Under the Donnelly Act (Second and Third Claims) Should Be Dismissed, In Part, Because They Impermissibly Assert Claims of Governmental Entities<sup>3</sup>

Plaintiff advances two separate claims under the Donnelly Act, one based upon § 340(1) and (5) (Second Claim) and the other based upon § 340(1) and (6) (Third Claim). Both claims should be dismissed.

# 1. Plaintiff's Second Claim Should Be Dismissed With The Exception Of Its Claim For Civil Penalties

In its Second Claim, Plaintiff seeks treble damages on behalf of itself and on behalf of the Requesting non-State public entities. Amend. Compl. at ¶ 92. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees, injunctive relief and civil penalties in its sovereign capacity. *Id.* at ¶¶ 92-93. As this Court noted, however, "while the Donnelly Act does provide express statutory authority for the State Attorney General to sue on behalf of 'any political subdivision or public authority of the State,' the Donnelly Act contemplates that these government entities must be specifically identified, and it must be affirmatively demonstrated that they have 'requested' that the Attorney General bring suit on their behalf." Order at 11. As discussed above, the Amended Complaint fails to provide the information required by this Court's Order concerning these entities.

In addition, because the State's claims based on § 340(1) and (5) are predicated on the State as "owner of the Assigned Claims," that claim contains the same deficiencies discussed above with respect to Plaintiff's Sherman Act claim, namely this Court has already held that the Centralized Contract assignment clause cannot serve as the basis for Plaintiff's Donnelly Act claims. *Id.* at 8. As such, Plaintiff's Second Claim under the Donnelly Act should be dismissed (with the exception of its claim for civil penalties).

In deference to the Court's August 31, 2007 Order denying Defendants' motion to dismiss Plaintiff's Donnelly Act claim for civil penalties (Order at 21), Defendants do not here seek dismissal again of this part of Plaintiff's claim. However, Defendants reserve the right to renew the arguments advanced on this point in their motion to dismiss the original complaint at the appropriate time.

12

11

14 15

13

16 17

18

19 20

21

22

23 24

25

26

27

28

#### 2. Plaintiff's Third Claim Should Be Dismissed Because It Provides No Independent **Basis For A Claim**

The Third Claim suffers from similar deficiencies, but is even more inscrutable. This Claim seeks recovery under § 340(1) and (6), a new (and impermissible) addition to the Complaint. As in Plaintiff's Second Claim, the Third Claim<sup>4</sup> seeks treble damages, but it also seeks recovery on this claim only on its own behalf and on behalf of the "Requesting non-State Public Entities." Amend. Compl. at ¶ 99. Despite the fact that the Court's Order did not grant Plaintiff leave to amend to add additional Donnelly Act claims, the Third Claim seeks recovery on different grounds than the Plaintiff's original Donnelly Act claim. Like Plaintiff's unauthorized change to its Sherman Act claim, the Third Claim is clearly outside of the scope of amendment allowed by the Court's Order and should be dismissed on this ground alone.

But even if this amendment is allowed, the Third Claim should be dismissed because § 340(6) does not provide any independent basis for a claim.

Section 340(6) provides:

In any action pursuant to this section, the fact that the state, or any political subdivision or public authority of the state, or any person who has sustained damages by reason of violation of this section has not dealt directly with the defendant shall not bar or otherwise limit recovery; provided, however, that in any action in which claims are asserted against a defendant by both direct and indirect purchasers, the court shall take all steps necessary to avoid duplicate liability, including but not limited to the transfer and consolidation of all related actions. In actions where both direct and indirect purchasers are involved, a defendant shall be entitled to prove as a partial or complete defense to a claim for damages that the illegal overcharge has been passed on to others who are themselves entitled to recover so as to avoid duplication of recovery of damages.

This section does not contain any independent right of action. In contrast to section 340(5), which refers to "an action to recover damages caused by a violation of this section", section 340(6) merely discusses the limits of recovery for violations of the Donnelly Act. This claim therefore adds nothing beyond what is alleged in the Second Claim and does not provide a basis for relief.

Like the Second Claim, the Third Claim also seeks attorneys' fees, injunctive relief and civil penalties on behalf of the State in its sovereign capacity.

16

20 21

22

23 24

25

26

27

28

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

Moreover, as discussed *supra*, because Plaintiff has not provided the requisite detail concerning these "Requesting non-State Public Entities", including the nature of their purchases, Plaintiff cannot state a claim on their behalf under the Donnelly Act.

#### C. Plaintiff's Claim for Damages On Behalf Of Natural Persons Under Executive Law 63(12) (Fourth Claim) Should Be Dismissed<sup>5</sup>

Plaintiff brings its damage claim under New York Executive Law 63(12) "on behalf of all natural persons in New York who purchased DRAM-containing products or otherwise purchased DRAM indirectly." Amend. Compl. at ¶ 103. Plaintiff bases its Executive Law 63(12) claim on alleged violations of: the Sherman Act, the Donnelly Act, "state antitrust laws throughout the United States" and N.Y. Exec. 63(12) itself. Amend. Compl. at ¶ 102. The Sherman Act and Donnelly Act, however, bar the very claim – a representative damage claim for indirect purchasers – that Plaintiff tries to assert. Moreover, New York law bars claims under consumer protection statutes, such as 63(12), where, as here, the injury is too remote from the alleged violation. These statutes therefore cannot support Plaintiff's claim under Executive Law 63(12).

As an initial matter, Plaintiff has alleged no basis for its nebulous claim that other states' antitrust laws may serve as a basis for a claim under Executive Law 63(12). Indeed, this Court expressly dismissed Plaintiff's attempt to base a claim on California's antitrust law, the Cartwright Act. Id. at 21. Moreover, this Court held that there is no broadly recognized common law parens patriae right to pursue monetary damages claims. Id. at 13. As such, Plaintiff's claim under Executive Law 63(12) must stand or fall based on whether Plaintiff may pursue representative damages claims on behalf of indirect purchasers under the Sherman Act, the Donnelly Act or Executive Law 63(12) itself.

In light of the Court's October 16, 2007 Order denying Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration of its ruling on the applicable statute of limitations for claims under 63(12). Defendants will not seek dismissal based on Plaintiff's failure to comply with the applicable statute of limitations for claims under Executive Law 63(12). However, Defendants reserve the right to renew the arguments advanced on this point in their motion to dismiss the original complaint as well as the motion for reconsideration at the appropriate time.

# 1. New York Law Bars Plaintiff's Claim Under Executive Law 63(12) Because It Is Too Remote From The Alleged Violation

Plaintiff's claim on behalf of "natural persons who purchased DRAM-containing products or otherwise purchased DRAM indirectly" fails because these indirect purchasers are too remote from the alleged violation. New York law does not permit claims under its general consumer protection statutes, including Executive Law 63(12), to recover for injuries suffered by persons who were not directly injured by the conduct at issue. See, e.g., Blue Cross and Blue Shield v. Philip Morris USA, 3 N.Y.3d 200, 207-208 (N.Y. Ct. App. 2004) (recognizing that General Business Law section 349) contains a remoteness bar to recovery); Ho v. Visa U.S.A., 16 A.D.3d 256, 257 (N.Y. App. Div. 2005) (dismissing Gen. Bus. Law section 349 claim on grounds of remoteness); New York v. Daicel Chemical Industries, Ltd., 2007 N.Y. Slip. Op. 5827, \*3 (N.Y. App. Div. 2007) (upholding trial court's dismissal of Gen. Bus. Law section 349 claim on the ground that the indirect purchasers on whose behalf plaintiff sued were too remote from defendants' alleged wrongdoing to support such a claim). This doctrine has developed in connection with General Business Law 349, a general consumer protection statute as to which the New York courts have held Executive Law 63(12) is to be construed "in parallel." See Lefkowitz v. Colorado State Christian College of the Church of the Inner Power, Inc., 76 Misc. 2d 50, 54 (N.Y. Sup. Ct. 1973). As such, the case law barring actions for "remote" or "indirect" injuries under General Business Law 349 applies equally to claims under Executive Law 63(12).

In *Blue Cross*, the New York Court of Appeals considered whether insurance companies could seek damages from tobacco companies whose alleged deceptive practices misled smokers, thereby increasing the smokers' medical costs, and, in turn, increasing the insurers' costs. 3 N.Y.3d 200. Even though the plaintiffs had undeniably paid the smokers' medical bills, and had thus been "injured," the Court of Appeals dismissed their claim under New York General Business Law section 349 based on its conclusion that such injuries were "too remote" and that plaintiffs had not been "directly injured." *Blue Cross*, 3 N.Y.3d at 207-208. Specifically, the Court held: "it is beyond dispute that section 349(h) permits an actually (nonderivatively) injured party to sue a tortfeasor. We

25

26

27

28

hold simply that what is required is that the party actually injured be the one to bring suit. Empire was not directly injured in this sense." *Id.* at 207.

Likewise, in *Ho*, the New York court relied on *Blue Cross* to affirm the dismissal of a section 349 claim in an antitrust action. In *Ho*, as here, the plaintiffs alleged that they were indirectly "injured" by the defendants' practices. The Court held that the section 349 claim "fail[ed] because of the remoteness of [plaintiffs'] damages from the alleged injurious activity" and because "their "injuries [were] too remote and derivative to countenance such a cause of action." 16 A.D.3d at 257 (citing *Blue Cross*, 3 N.Y.3d 200).6

The claims for which Plaintiff here seeks to recover involve, by definition, indirect purchases. They are even more remote than typical indirect purchaser claims because they are not based on purchases of the allegedly price-fixed product. Rather, they involve purchases of another product of which DRAM is a component that accounted for a small fraction of the total cost. Like the claims of the plaintiffs in *Ho* and *Blue Shield*, but even more attenuated, the indirect purchasers here were "injured" only as a result of alleged overcharges that impacted them by virtue of the impact allegedly felt by the direct purchasers of DRAM. These derivative claims stand in stark contrast to the claims of direct purchasers of DRAM (which Plaintiff does not seek to represent with this claim) who would be injured directly by any alleged overcharge. Thus, under settled New York precedent, the "injuries" of the indirect purchasers are "too remote" to serve as a basis for claims under Executive Law 63(12) and should be dismissed.

# 2. Plaintiff's Claim Is Also Expressly Barred By The Sherman Act and the Donnelly Act

As this Court recognized in its Order, *Illinois Brick Co. v. Illinois*, 431 U.S. 720 (1977) bars recovery for indirect purchasers under the Sherman Act and the Donnelly Act does not provide for

Indeed, in Ho, the Court also dismissed a Donnelly Act claim on the same grounds, even though the Donnelly Act had already been amended to allow indirect purchaser claims. *Id.* Thus, it is clear that even when the underlying statute expressly allows for recovery by indirect purchasers, New York law bars recovery of remote, indirect or derivative damages. This conclusion with respect to the application of General Business Law section 349 is the same with regard to Executive Law 63(12). *See Lefkowitz*, 76 Misc. 2d at 54 (section 349 and Executive Law 63(12) must be construed "in parallel")

representative or parens patriae actions for the recovery of monetary damages on behalf of natural persons. Order at 5. Nevertheless, New York now asserts such claims through Executive Law 63(12), using the Sherman Act and the Donnelly Act as the base for its action. Executive Law 63(12) is a law of general application, not an antitrust law. Moreover, it does not contain an independent cause of action. See, e.g., State of New York v. Cortelle Corp., 38 N.Y.2d 83, 85 (N.Y. Ct. App. 1975). Instead, as the court in Cortelle explained, 63(12) provides the Attorney General with standing to seek redress and additional remedies for recognized wrongs based on the violation of other statutes. Id. As set forth above, neither the Sherman Act nor the Donnelly Act allow the Attorney General to pursue a representative action on behalf of indirect purchasers. Because Plaintiff's claim under Executive Law 63(12) does not (and cannot) overcome this bar to recovery, it should be dismissed.

Indeed, to allow Plaintiff to employ 63(12) to fashion a cause of action where the underlying statute (the Donnelly Act) or the judicial interpretation of a law (*Illinois Brick*'s limitation of the coverage of the Sherman Act) expressly <u>bars</u> it from obtaining damages would undercut the very laws upon which liability is based. In its Order, this Court recognized the absurdity of such a result and concluded that 63(12) does not authorize actions for monetary damages on behalf of natural persons under the Donnelly Act because the Donnelly Act "specifically limits" claims by the Attorney General "to those seeking injunctive relief, or civil penalties under the Act" and "expressly denies" the Attorney General the authority to seek monetary damages on behalf of natural persons. Order at 14. This conclusion also holds true for the Sherman Act, which *Illinois Brick* expressly holds does not allow indirect purchaser claims, as well as the "state antitrust laws throughout the United States," many of which also deny indirect purchasers the right to recovery consistent with *Illinois Brick*.

Plaintiff argues that the general authority provided by Executive Law 63(12) permits it to seek relief expressly barred by the predicate statutes. But because neither the Sherman Act nor the Donnelly Act can serve as a basis for Plaintiff's claims pursuant to Executive Law 63(12), Plaintiff's contention, if accepted, would allow a law of general application to eclipse specific boundaries established by statute and case law. Such a result cannot and should not be countenanced. It is an accepted canon of statutory construction that "a precisely drawn detailed statute pre-empts more

general remedies." Brown v. General Services Administration, 425 U.S. 820, 834 (1976) (rejecting

an interpretation that would "drive out of currency" a narrowly aimed provision "with its rigorous . . . time limitations" by permitting "access to the courts under other, less demanding statutes"); see also Block v. North Dakota ex rel. Board of Univ. and School Lands, 461 US. 273, 284-286 (1983) (adverse claimants to real property of the United States may not rely on "officer's suits" or on other general remedies because the Quiet Title Act of 1972 is their exclusive recourse); Stonite Products Co. v. Melvin Lloyd Co., 315 U.S. 561 (1942) (venue in patent infringement cases is governed by a statute dealing specifically with patents, not a general venue provision); Morton v. Mancari, 417 U.S. 535, 550-551 (1974) (rejecting plaintiffs' argument that the specific employment preference authorized in the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 was preempted by the anti-discrimination provision contained in the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972).

Plaintiff may cite New York v. Feldman, 210 F. Supp. 2d 294, 302-303 (S.D.N.Y. 2002) to

support its argument that Executive Law 63(12) may be used to circumvent the fact that the Attorney General cannot recover damages on behalf of natural persons under the Donnelly Act. The *Feldman* court concluded that 63(12) can be employed to seek damages for antitrust violations that would otherwise be unavailable under the Donnelly Act based on its interpretation of two New York cases – *People v. Concert Connection, Ltd.*, 629 N.Y.S.2d 254, 256 (2nd Dept. 1995) and *People v. American Motor Club, Inc.*, 582 N.Y.S.2d 688, 692 (1st Dept. 1992).<sup>7</sup> In both of these cases, the New York courts considered whether the Attorney General could use 63(12) to pursue remedies that were not explicitly provided for in the laws which established the underlying violation. Neither of the laws considered in those cases contained provisions like those contained in the Donnelly Act that specifically set forth the remedies the Attorney General is authorized to pursue. The *Feldman* Court failed to consider this critical distinction, resulting in a badly reasoned opinion that is inconsistent

17.

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

#### CaseM:02-cv-01486-PJH Document1778 Filed11/26/07 Page25 of 28

with this Court's reasoning. Moreover, neither of the cases considered by *Feldman* were antitrust cases. As such, the Court should not rely on that decision. In any event, *Feldman* is not binding on this Court.

Indeed, it would be irrational and contrary to the statutory scheme of the Donnelly Act to allow the Attorney General to bring a claim under Executive Law 63(12) based on a violation of the Donnelly Act where the Act itself bars him from pursuing such an action. As the Court recognized in its Order, allowing such artful pleading would fly in the face of settled New York case law counseling that, "where the Legislature has not been completely silent but has instead made express provision for civil remedy, albeit a narrower remedy than the plaintiff might wish, the court should ordinarily not attempt to fashion a different remedy, with broader coverage." Order at 14 (citing *People ex rel. Spitzer v. Grasso*, 836 N.Y.S.2d 40, 48 (N.Y. App. Div. 2007)). Likewise, it would undermine the judicial interpretation of the Sherman Act to allow a plaintiff to bring a representative indirect purchaser action under Executive Law 63(12) that would be barred under the Sherman Act alone. Accordingly, the Court should dismiss the claim for damages under Executive Law 63(12) because it cannot overcome the bar on Sherman Act indirect purchaser damage claims and the Donnelly Act's statutory bar on representative damages claims by the Attorney General.

#### V. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Defendants request that this Court dismiss Plaintiff's claims as set forth herein.

DATED: November 26, 2007

GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER LLP JOEL S. SANDERS G. CHARLES NIERLICH JOSHUA D. HESS REBECCA JUSTICE LAZARUS

By:/s/ Joel S. Sanders

Joel S. Sanders

Attorneys for Defendants MICRON TECHNOLOGY, INC. AND MICRON SEMICONDUCTOR PRODUCTS, INC.

28

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11.

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

20

#### CaseM:02-cv-01486-PJH Document1778 Filed11/26/07 Page26 of 28

1		
2	DATED: November 26, 2007	O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP
3		KENNETH O'ROURKE STEVEN BERGMAN
4		
5		By: /s/ Kenneth O'Rourke
6		Kenneth O'Rourke
7		Attorneys for Defendants HYNIX SEMICONDUCTOR, INC. AND HYNIX
8		SEMICONDUCTOR AMERICA, INC.
9		
10	DATED: November 26, 2007	KAYE SCHOLER LLP
11		JULIAN BREW ATON ARBISSER
12		JOSHUA STAMBAUGH
13		
14		By: <u>/s/ Julian Brew</u> Julian Brew
15		Attorneys for Defendants
16		INFINEON TECHNOLOGIES NORTH AMERICA CORP. AND INFINEON TECHNOLOGIES AG
17		
18	DATED: November 26, 2007	THELEN REID BROWN RAYSMAN &
19	DATED. November 20, 2007	STEINER LLP
20		ROBERT B. PRINGLE PAUL R. GRIFFIN JONATHAN SWARTZ
21		VOTATITALIS WINCIES
22		By: /s/ Robert B. Pringle
23		Robert B. Pringle
24		Attorneys for Defendant NEC ELECTRONICS AMERICA, INC.
25		NEC EEEE TROMES AMERICA, INC.
26		
27		
28		
Dunn &		21

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

#### CaseM:02-cv-01486-PJH Document1778 Filed11/26/07 Page27 of 28

1	DATED: November 26, 2007	ORRICK HARRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP ROBERT E. FREITAS		
2		HOWARD ULLMAN		
3				
4		By: <u>/s/ Howard M. Ullman</u> Howard M. Ullman		
5		Attorneys for Defendant		
6		NANYA TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION USA AND NANYA TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION		
7				
8				
9	DATED: November 26, 2007	HELLER EHRMAN LLP STEPHEN V. BOMSE		
11		DAVID C. BROWNSTEIN SCOTT E. MORGAN		
12				
13	-	By: /s/ Stephen V. Bomse		
14		Stephen V. Bomse		
15 16		Attorneys for Defendant MOSEL VITELIC INC. AND MOSEL VITELIC CORPORATION		
17				
18				
19	DATED: November 26, 2007	SIMPSON THACHER & BARTLETT LLP JAMES G. KREISSMAN		
20		HARRISON J. FRAHN ISABELLE A. YOUNG		
21				
22				
23		By: <u>/s/ Harrison J. Frahn</u> Harrison J. Frahn		
24		Attorneys for Defendants		
25		ELPIDA MEMORY (USA) INC. AND ELPIDA MEMORY, INC.		
26		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
27	ATTESTATION OF FILING			
28	Pursuant to General Order No. 45, Section X(B) regarding signatures, I, Joel S. Sanders,			
	22			
Dunn &	B 6 1 1114 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11			

Gibson, Dunn 8 Crutcher LLP

#### CaseM:02-cv-01486-PJH Document1778 Filed11/26/07 Page28 of 28

hereby attest that concurrence in the filing of this Motion to Dismiss has been obtained from Defendants Infineon Technologies AG, Infineon Technologies North America Corporation, Hynix Semiconductor Inc., Hynix Semiconductor America Inc., Mosel Vitelic Corporation, Mosel Vitelic Inc., Nanya Technology Corporation, Nanya Technology Corporation USA, Elpida Memory, Inc., Elpida Memory (USA) Inc., and NEC Electronics America, Inc. that have provided conformed signatures above.

100313820 3.DOC

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP